MARVEL COMICS

DEADPOOL

MAR '97

3

GUEST-STARRING SIRYN OF X-FORCE

DEADPOOL

Love is all around

MRP!

DIRECT EDITION

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$1.95 US $2.75 CAN

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

1

Hey, it's **Wade Wilson**, the mercenary better known as **Deadpool!** Deadpool has the uncanny, but artificially induced ability to heal almost any wound, making him a really tough guy to beat in battle. He gained this amazing power as a result of an experiment that cured him of cancer, but left him horribly scarred from head to toe.

2

'Pool's best bud, arms-supplier, and personal cheering section is a guy named **Weasel**, who's always willing to lend a helping hand.

3

At the other end of the spectrum is **Blind Alfred**, his prisoner-turned-roommate. Although Al is blind, she always sees 20/20 when it comes to seeing the need to put Wade in his place, and often has to smack some sense into him.

4

Recently, Deadpool was approached by the intergalactic holding firm of **Landau, Luckman & Lake** to be their personal agent. They believe Deadpool is destined to become the hero he wishes deep inside that he could be. Deadpool refused the offer, but LL&L is convinced that there is much more to the merc than even he is aware, and is determined, over time, to win him over.

5

Only the future will tell if Wade Wilson can complete his quest for inner peace and happiness...

RECENTLY, IN "DEADPOOL"...

6

Last month, Deadpool spent a quiet evening "watching over" **X-Force's Siryn**, the love of his life...

7

...while his pal Weasel was kidnapped by the deadly **Taskmaster**.

KRAK

KOOM

8

Deadpool tracked down Weasel and eventually defeated that nefarious master of combat...

9

...but not without **losing** something very important to him in the process: **his finger!**

10

Which brings us to the present...

stumped!

THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT... HEY! WHERE'S THE PIGGY?!

OR...

DEAD-POOL! DEAD-POOL! DEAD-POOL!

DEEP BREATHS, YA RAT FINK! DEEP BREATHS!

NNNNNNGH

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NGHK

ENOUGH WITH THE *THEATRICS, WADE.* NO NEED TO POP AN *ANEURYSM.* EVERYONE'S *ENRAPTURED.*

TO THINK I COULD BE SIPPING *IMPORTED* BEERS RIGHT NOW IN AN *OVERSTUFFED* LAY-Z-CHAIR INSTEAD OF WATCHING *THIS* --

WILL YOU STOW IT, WEASEL?! I'M CONCENTRATING HERE!

I LOST THIS DIGIT SAVING YOUR *SCRAWNY BUTT* FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE *TASK-MASTER*● --

THE *LEAST* YOU COULD DO IS *PRETEND* TO BE THANKFUL AND SHUT YER YAP WHILE I TRY AN' *GROW* IT BACK!

●Last Ish --Matt

AND SCORE SOME *PAYOLA* IN THE PROCESS! HEH-HEH *SUCKERS...*

ALRIGHT, WHO SAYS HE DOES IT IN *THREE* MINUTES? I GOT *FIVE* BILLS FOR FOUR AND TWENTY. WHO'S TAKIN'?

YOU CALL THAT *ACTION?*

THREE G'S SAYS HE DOESN'T GROW IT BACK AT *ALL.*

'COURSE HE'S GONNA GROW IT BACK, *T-RAY...*

...WE'RE JUST BETTIN' ON HOW *LONG* IT TAKES FOR HIS *HEALIN' FACTOR* TO KICK IN --

CALL IT A *SUCKER* BET, THEN. *TAKE* THE GREEN, *PATCH!*

NGGH!

TAKE THE BET.

AAUGH!

THE *AGONY!*

TAKE THE BET.

HARF!

TAKE IT NOW.

OKAY, IT'S *YOUR* LUNCH MONEY, T-RAY --

MIND... STRONG... BODY... CUT AND DEFINED...

MUST --

FINALLY...

-- GROW --

?!?

POINK

-- FINGER?

THIS IS A *JOKE*, RIGHT?

NO, *CAN'T* BE, 'CAUSE THEN *I'D* BE PLAYING THE JOKE ON *MYSELF*, AND I'D HAVE TO KICK MY *OWN* BEHIND FOR SUCH *TOMFOOLERY* —

AND I'M NOT HARDLY LIMBER ENOUGH TO WHUP MY OWN TAIL...

MY *MONEY*.

SURE, T-RAY.

YOU CAN STOP *FOOLIN'* AROUND *ANYTIME* NOW, 'POOL.

HE'S NOT FOOLING *ANYONE* ANY-MORE... *ARE* YOU, WILSON?

EXPOSED WEAKNESS... FEELS *UNCOMFORTABLE*, DOESN'T IT?

I'D GET *USED* TO IT IF I WERE YOU.

OH BOY, T-RAY *VEILED* A *THREAT* AT ME... I'M QUIVERING IN MY *UNDEROOS*. REALLY...

...SHOVE OFF, *T-BAG*, AND ON YOUR WAY HOME, KNOCK OVER A *QUICK-E-MART* 'N STEAL A PACK OF *TIC-TACS* FOR CRIMINY'S SAKE.

YOUR *BREATH* IS SO BAD, WHEN YOU CALL PEOPLE ON THE *PHONE*, THEY GET *NAUSEOUS*.

I'M TRYING TO MAINTAIN MY GIRLISH *FIGURE*, SO WHAT?

HEY, C.F! GET ME A *BREW!*

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, WADE?

I'M THREE THOUSAND BUCKS *POORER* FOR STARTERS...

YOU USED TO BE ABLE TO *REGENERATE* A WHOLE *LIMB* IN A MATTER OF *MINUTES!*

AND HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT YOU'VE BEEN DROPPING *WEIGHT?*

THIS IS *SERIOUS!* YOUR *HEALING FACTOR'S* OUT OF *SYNCH*, AND IF GUYS LIKE *T-RAY* SEE ANY SIGNS OF *WEAKNESS* FROM YOU —

CONSIDER YOUR *BACK* STABBED IN *ADVANCE*.

IT'S SO *PRECIOUS* WHEN YOU *MOTHER* ME! VERY *MISTER BELVEDERE* OF YOU.

STUPID DEADPOOL COSTMETWENTY BUCKSANDIHAVETO BUYHIMASTUPID BEER...

YOU *DO* NEED A MOTHER... OR A *WIFE* TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU! MAYBE THAT *IRISH* GIRL --

HERE!

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHAT HAPPENED THE *LAST* TIME YOU MENTIONED SIRYN, WEAZ?

OF COURSE YOU HAVE. YOUR BREATHING HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL. WHAT'S WITH THE BOX, C.F.?

DUNNO, CAME FOR YOU BY COURIER -- *WHOA!*

SKSSSSH

GOODIE! MAYBE IT'S THOSE *ROCKET SKATES* I ORDERED FROM THE *ACME* COMPANY!

THE LAST PAIR BACKFIRED AND ALMOST BLEW MY LEGS HALFWAY TO MY DUODENUM.

BUT I'LL GET THAT PESKY *ROAD RUNNER* YET. WITH *MY LIFE'S BLOOD*, I SWEAR IT!

I WILL NOT REST... *HAIRY ZEUS ON A TRAFFIC LIGHT!*

GOT TO *HAND* IT TO YOU, LAD, YOU'RE A TOUGH ONE TO FIND. THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT THIS BACK.

-- YOUR PAL,

"BLACK TOM CASSIDY"?!

THAT *IRISHSPRING* SMELLIN'WHISKEY *SWILLIN'* LEPRECHAUN KISSIN'CORNED BEEFANDHASH *MICROWAVIN' MUTANT* SCUM --

TAUNT *ME*, WILL YOU?!

I'LL SHOW YOU TAUNTING! I'LL TAUNT YOU TILL YOU BLEED OUT OF YOUR EARS AND RUN HOME TO MAMMA!

FRIKKIN' FRAKKIN' BLACK TOM CRAKKIN' WAKKIN'

TEK

DEADPOOL'S REALLY *P.O.ED!* AT LEAST HE'S GOIN' TO TAKE IT OUT ON SOMEONE *ELSE* FOR A CHANGE!

WHAT DID THIS *TOM* GUY DO, ANYWAY --?

JUST IN CASE YOU WERE *WONDERING* --

MEGLUFFGH

WHAM

-- BLACK TOM HAD SOME *CHUMP* CUT OFF *MY HAND* AND HE KEPT IT. I'M STILL A LITTLE *SENSITIVE* ABOUT IT.●

BY THE WAY, THANKS FOR THE *DELIVERY.* C.F.

TOODLES.

●AS SHOWN IN DEADPOOL'S 2ND LIMITED SERIES! -- POOL HAND MATT

GLCHH... BLECH... NFF...

IT'S NOT *YOU*, C.F.... REALLY... WADE JUST HAS A PROBLEM WITH THE *CONCEPT* OF *NOT* KILLING THE MESSENGER... HONEST.

ONE TELEPORT LATER, IN SUNNY SAN FRANCISCO...

WHERE THE #*&@X* IS IT?!

IT'S A MIRACLE YOU FIND *ANYTHING* IN THIS MESS!

I SWEAR, YOU'D LOSE YOUR *BOLA BALLS* IF THEY WEREN'T *ATTACHED!*

ZIP IT, *AL!* I'M IN *NO* MOOD FOR WITTY REPARTEE!

BLACK TOM HAS *SLAPPED* ME IN THE FACE WITH MY *OWN* HAND, AND NOW THERE'S GONNA BE SOME *BLOODY HECK* TO PAY!

AS SOON AS I FIND THAT STUPID RASSUM FRASSUM *INTERCONTINENTAL COORDINATE TRANSLATOR* SO I CAN SET MY TELEPORTER AND *ZIP* OVER THERE...

IS IT SMALLER THAN A BREADBOX, LOTS O' BUTTONS, DIGITAL READOUT?

YEAH, YOU SEEN IT?

NOPE, I'M BLIND, REMEMBER?

WOOSH

BUT HEY, I HAVE A *SWELL* IDEA! WHY DON'T YOU SKIP OFF TO *WESTCHESTER* AND ASK THAT NICE *SIRYN* GIRL IF SHE'S SEEN HER *UNCLE?*

WHY, PRAY TELL, WOULD I WANT TO DO *THAT?*

WELL, *a*), SHE MIGHT HAVE A *PLANE* OR A CAR OR *TAXI FARE* TO GET YOU TO BLACK TOM...

b), YOU'VE BEEN *SPYING* ON HER FOR MONTHS NOW®, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL *TALK* TO HER...

AND *c*), YOU'RE GONNA *SCREW* THINGS UP WITH HER *ANYWAY*, SO WHY NOT DO IT IN *STYLE?*

WADE!

YOU KNOW WHAT, YOU *DEPRAVED* OLD WITCH...

THAT HAREBRAINED SCHEME'S JUST *CRAZY* ENOUGH TO WORK! C'MERE, YOU!

I'LL GET TO HANG WITH *TERESA*, *KILL* BLACK TOM, *AND* GET MY HAND BACK, ALL IN *ONE SHOT!*

I THINK YOU'RE MISSING THE *NUANCE* OF MY PLAN, WADE, BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE *HAPPY.*

NOW PUT ME DOWN BEFORE I *RALF* UP MY *GERITOL...*

I'LL JUST PACK A TOOTHBRUSH AND A MAGAZINE OF *HOLLOW TIPS* AND IT'S A DATE! DON'T WAIT UP —

THANKS WADE, YOU'RE A KITTEN...

WADE! YOU LEFT ME ALL *TURNED* AROUND! WHICH WAY AM I POINTING?

OH, YOU'RE POINTING RIGHT TOWARDS *YOUR BEDROOM...* JUST TAKE ONE *GIANT* STEP! SEE YA!

WESTCHESTER COUNTY. THE XAVIER INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER LEARNING.

— THEN THE *FASTBALL SPECIAL* WAS EXECUTED, ALLOWING *WOLVERINE* TO PENETRATE *MASTER MOLD'S* CHEST CAVITY.

THUS ALLOWING STORM TO LAUNCH A LOW LEVEL *STRAFING* RUN... SEE DIAGRAM 52.4.3... =SIGH=

God grant Me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the Courage to change the Things I can, and the Wisdom to tell the Difference.

WHERE THE TERM "LEARNING" TAKES ON A WHOLE NEW MEANING.

FOR THIS IS THE REALM OF THE OUTLAWED MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE *X-MEN*, AS WELL AS THEIR *FIRST-STRIKE* COUNTERPARTS, *X-FORCE!*

... I'VE BEEN READIN' THIS STUFF F'R *HOURS* NOW, AN'I NAE COULD HAVE COME UP WITH *THAT!*

I STILL HAVE SO MUCH TO *LEARN* IF'N I'M T'BE THE JUNIOR *LEADER* OF X-FORCE...

... BUT NO ONE SAID IT WOULD ■ EASY, NOW *DID* THEY, *TERESA ROURKE?*

MAYBE I'LL SLIP INTO ME *SIRYN* DUDS FR A PRACTICE RUN IN THE *DANGER ROOM*...

... RIGHT AFTER I GIVE MY *EYEBALLS* ■ CHANCE TO *RECUPERATE*...

... JUST F'R A MOMENT... A *LONG* MOMENT —

KNOCK

WHOMEVER IT IS, I'M STUDYING! SO UNLESS MELTDOWN'S BLOWN UP THE PLAY STATION AGAIN, I'M --

PIZZA!

PIZZA? WHO IS THAT? JAMES?

POTATO AND CABBAGE PIZZA.

NOT JAMES... IT ALMOST SOUNDED LIKE --

CANDYGRAM!

DEADPOOL!

I WAS GONNA SAY "LAND SHARK", BUT DEADPOOL WORKS TOO... HOW ARE YOU, TERRY?

WHAT ARE YE DOIN' HERE?! AN' WHAT'S WITH THAT OUTLANDISH GET UP?

PIZZA

"GET UP?" THIS IS A MASTERFULLY CRAFTED DISGUISE! I USED IT TO SLIP INTO THE MANSION COMPLETELY UNDETECTED!

I MEAN, THE TELEPORTER HELPED TOO, BUT I'D HEARD THAT THE BEAST IS A SUCKER FOR A MAN IN UNIFORM...

COME 'ERE, YE BIG -- OH?

WADE, WHAT HAPPENED TO Y'R HAND? ARE YE ALRIGHT?

OH.. THAT... JUST A LITTLE... ACCORDION ACCIDENT, NOTHING REALLY -- I --

GUH

WHAT?

UH --

-- NOTHING. HERE, BRAIN FOOD. FOR YOU. FOOD.

PIZZA

THANK YE, BUT Y'R FINGER --

WHAT'S WITH THE TOMES, POINDEXTER? YOU'RE NOT GOIN' GEEK ON ME, ARE YOU?

NO, I -- WADE, WHY ARE YE HERE? WHAT'S GOING ON?

CAN'T A GUY JUST TELEPORT ACROSS THE COUNTRY FOR NO REASON? I JUST FIGURED MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO GET SOME FRESH AIR, HIT THE TOWN --

-- MAYBE PAINT ON ONE OF THOSE UNSTABLE MOLECULE THINGIES YOU SIZZLE IN AND GIVE US A TURN --

-- Y'KNOW, ROAD TRIP!

DEADPOOL! MY WORK!

YOU CANNAE JUST *POP* IN 'N WREAK *HAVOC* WITH MY STUDIES —!

THIS IS PART OF MY JOB, AND IT'S VERY IMPORTANT! MORE SO THAN YER SILLY *SHENANIGANS!*

SHENANIGANS? DID YOU JUST CURSE ME OUT IN IRISH?

WHAT'S WITH THE 'TUDE, TERRY? AND SINCE WHEN IS HOMEWORK BETTER THAN PLAYTIME WITH —

SINCE THE *WORLD* FELL APART, WADE! SINCE *EVERYTHING* CHANGED FR MUTANTS!

YE OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE ALL THE *SENSE* IN Y'R LIFE *TORN* AWAY!

FINE. I GET IT NOW. THE LIGHT BULB HAS TURNED ON. *DING.*

WHEN YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING LIKE OH... BREAK OUT OF A *MENTAL ASYLUM,* THEN, SURE, IT'S *PEACHY* TO CALL DEADPOOL...

BUT WHEN I WANT TO DO SOMETHING, THE BOOKS AND THE *X-MOOKS* COME FIRST. *"WADE WHO?"* GOT YA.

WADE!

SORRY TO HAVE PESTERED YOU, *MS. ROURKE.* TRY NOT TO *BORE* YOURSELF TO DEATH.

WADE!

LOOK, I'M SORRY. THE PRESSURE I'M UNDER IS JUST... *-SIGH-* LET'S TALK ABOUT IT OVER A SLICE —

— WHAT'S THIS?

VZZId

IT *WAS* MY CUTE LITTLE WAY OF TELLING YOU WHERE WE'RE GOING ON OUR *ROAD TRIP.* BUT NOW —

WHERE?

WHY... OFF TO KILL *YOUR UNCLE TOM CASSIDY,* OF COURSE!

RRRP

I CALL *SHOTGUN!*

HILLSIDE SOMEWHERE NESTLED DEEP WITHIN THE SWISS ALPS...

FINE *LEADERSHIP* SKILLS, TERESA. SNEAK OFF WITH ONE *MANIAC* IN SEARCH OF *ANOTHER* WITHOUT TELLIN' A *SOUL*. I'M *CRACKED*.

BUT IF I DINNAE COME... WHO [redacted] WHAT DEADPOOL WOULD'VE DONE TO TOM?

OF COURSE, IF'N HE *REALLY* WANTED TO KILL TOM, WHY *TELL* ME ABOUT IT FIRST?

IF THERE'S *ONE* THING I'M GOING TO REMEMBER YOUR UNCLE FOR AFTER I'VE *GUTTED* HIM AND STUCK HIS HEAD ON A *PIKE* --

-- IT'S THAT HE WAS A *HECK* OF A *CARTOGRAPHER*. THAT MAP WAS RIGHT ON THE MONEY --

AND HEEEEEEEERE'S *UNCLE TOM'S CABIN!*

I DON'T THINK IT'LL SHOW UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF *BETTER-HIDEOUTS AND GARDENS*, BUT --

-- THE *ICE FLOES* IN THE SUB-ZERO *MOAT* ARE SIMPLY *CHARMING*.

I WONDER IF HE'S DONE THE WINDOW TREATMENTS IN *CHINTZ* OR *TOOL*.

NOW WADE, *PROMISE* ME THAT WE'RE GOING T'WALK IN THERE LIKE *CIVILIZED* PERSONS AND ASSESS THE SITUATION --

YEAH, SURE. FOR *YOU*, SWEET CAKES, I PROMISE.

THANK YE.

OOOPS! LOOK AT THAT, CROSSED FINGERS!

LAST ONE TO *DISMEMBER* TOM IS A *ROTTEN* EGG!

Oh, TOMMY BOY! YOUR LUNGS, YOUR LUNGS ARE FILLING --

-- WITH BLOOD AND PHLEGM AND OTHER NASTY THINGS --

OOOH! THAT MAN! I CAN NEVER TELL IF HE'S SERIOUS OR NOT!

DEADPOOL! COME BACK HERE! I'M NAE JOKING!

SPLASH

OH, TOMMY BOY, YOUR NIECE, YOUR NIECE IS BUGGIN' --

BUG *THIS*, DANNY O'DAY!

WHURF!

TERESA?! HOW *FORWARD* OF YOU! WHAT WOULD THE NUNS BACK AT *FINISHING SCHOOL* THINK?

IS IT JUST ME OR ARE YOU *BREATHING* HEAVILY?

ADMIT IT. YOU CAN'T HELP BUT LOVE ME...

AT THIS MOMENT, WADE WILSON, WHAT I FEEL FOR YE IS EVERYTHING THAT'S THE *OPPOSITE* OF THAT *PARTICULAR* EMOTION.

GUH

WELL, WELL, WELL... IT'S ABOUT *TIME* YOU GOT HERE.

YOU'RE LATE FOR YOUR *APPOINTMENT*. LUCKILY, I GOT SOME *TIME* ON MY HANDS.

HELLO, DEADPOOL. LONG TIME NO SEE.

DOCTOR KILLBREW?! LOOK, TERRY, IT'S THE *QUACK* WHO QUOTE UNQUOTE CURED ME● IN THE WEAPON X PROGRAM!●

CAREFUL, *RED*. THIS IS PROBABLY SOME SORT OF CLEVER *TRAP*... AN ELABORATE *RUSE* ABOUT TO BE SPRUNG --

YOU WANT SOME *COCOA*? YOU MUST BE *FREEZING* IN THOSE TIGHTS. PLEASE, COME IN --

ALL RIGHT, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? BLACK TOM DROPS FROM THE *CEILING*? FIFTY NINJAS LEVEL *HOWITZERS* AT US?

THE *JUGGERNAUT* POPS OUT OF A BIRTHDAY CAKE IN A STEEL-CLAD *TEDDY*?

THIS IS *MY* HOME, DEADPOOL, I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE BLACK TOM EVEN *IS*.●

● But we do! Check out Generation X #25, and you'll know too!

NO TOM?! YEAH, RIGHT — AND THIS IS JUST A BIG FAT *RED HERRING*? *PUH-LEASE!*

UM... WADE?

● As revealed in the aforementioned 2nd limited series.
● Yes, that wacky Canadian super hero project.

I THINK HE MIGHT BE TELLIN YE THE *TRUTH*.

BUT — BUT THIS IS *MY GLOVE!* IT USED TO LIVE ON MY *HAND*, WHICH TOM IS USING TO *SCRATCH* GOD KNOWS WHAT!

IT'S JUST A *COPY*, DEADPOOL.

ONE OF *THOUSANDS* I'VE SENT TO SEEDY JOINTS AROUND THE WORLD WHERE *MERCS* AND OTHER *LOWLIFES* DWELL...

... HOPING THAT *ONE* DAY YOU'D GET IT AND BE *INCENSED* ENOUGH TO COME FOR *REVENGE.*

NOW THAT YOU'VE FINALLY ARRIVED... PLEASE, JUST SIT DOWN SO THAT WE CAN *TALK.*

TALK ABOUT *WHAT?!* "GEE, KILLBREW, WASN'T IT FUN WHEN YOU *RUINED* MY LIFE AND *TURNED* ME INTO THE POSTER CHILD FOR *RETIN-A*"?

I WANT TO TALK ABOUT YOUR *HEALTH*, DEADPOOL. YOUR *FAILING* HEALING FACTOR...

ABOUT WHAT WE DID TO YOU IN THE *WORKSHOP.*

THE WORKSHOP?

LAST I REMEMBER, YOU AN' WADE WENT OFF TO DO JUST THAT, FIX HIS HEALIN' POWERS...

AN' SURE AS I CAN SEE, YE WERE [redacted] WORTHLESS *THEN* AS YE ARE *NOW!*

THE WORKSHOP...

DID YOUR *FRIEND* TELL YOU THAT AFTER WE LEFT YOU, HE *SKEDADDLED* BEFORE I HAD A CHANCE TO —

THE WORKSHOP!

WADE! WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?!

HOW DARE YOU MENTION THE WORKSHOP TO ME?! HOW DARE YOU?!

I — I KNOW IT'S *PAINFUL* TO THINK ABOUT —

SWISSH

PAINFUL?! YOU DON'T KNOW FROM PAIN, KILLBREW... YET!

I CAN'T MAKE IT THROUGH THE *NIGHT* WITHOUT JUMPING OUT OF BED WITH A COLD SWEAT *DRENCHING* MY BODY —

— THE ANTISEPTIC *STENCH* OF THE WORKSHOP IN MY NOSE —

— THE *NOISE* OF THAT *MACHINE* GRINDING IN MY EARS —

I HAVE TO *BITE* THE INSIDE OF MY MOUTH TO MAKE SURE I'M IN THE *PRESENT*... AND NOT BACK *THERE*...

DO YOU *REMEMBER!?* DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID TO MY *TEETH?*

YOUR *TEETH*... GOD, OF COURSE.

WADE? *WADE*... DEEP BREATHS...

WE'RE NAE GONNA WORK THIS OUT IF KILLBREW'S *HEAD* IS LIBERATED FROM HIS *SHOULDERS* —

BACK OFF, TERESA! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!

FWAP!

YOUR MOST *ABHORRENT* NIGHTMARE COULDN'T COMPARE WITH THE THINGS KILLBREW DID TO US IN *WEAPON X*...

THIS IS OVER YOUR HEAD, RED. *WAY* OVER.

THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE, WILSON... I KNOW THAT YOU DON'T OWE ME ANYTHING MORE THAN *PAINFUL* RETRIBUTION..

BUT I WANT TO MAKE *AMENDS* FOR THE THINGS I'VE DONE...

WHY?

YOU REACH A POINT IN LIFE WHERE THERE ARE MORE DAYS *BEHIND* YOU THAN *AHEAD* OF YOU... AND YOU BEGIN TO TAKE *STOCK* OF WHAT YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED.

IN MY CASE... WELL, LET'S JUST SAY THAT I WASN'T PROUD OF MY LIST OF *ACHIEVEMENTS*.

IN WEAPON X... I -- I WAS FOLLOWING ORD■S... THAT'S NO EXCUSE, BUT IT WAS THE FACT THEN.

NOW... I HAVE *NO* ORDERS... JUST A *RESPONSIBILITY* TO TRY AND SET THINGS RIGHT. I *NEED* TO HELP YOU.

AND YOU MOST *DEFINITELY* COULD USE MY HELP.

NICE *WORDS* KILLBREW... BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN'T MAKE UP FOR... *EVER*.

WADE... I CANNA *PRETEND* TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE... OR TO KNOW WHAT THIS MAN DID TO YOU IN THE PAST...

... BUT RIGHT HERE -- *NOW* -- YE HOLD THE LIFE OF THIS MAN IN YOUR HANDS, AN HE'S BEGGIN F'R IT...

... Y'R *NOT* IN WEAPON X BEING *TWISTED* INTO DEADPOOL... NOT IN THIS... *WORKSHOP*...

... Y'R *HERE*... WITH *ME*...

YOU DON'T KNOW THE CAN OF WORMS YOUR STEPPING INTO HERE, RED. THE THINGS I'VE SEEN THIS MAN DO --

HE MAKES *DR. MENGELE* LOOK LIKE A *PODIATRIST*...

IN HIS PRESENCE, I HAVE HEARD *GROWN* MEN CRY TO *GODS* THEY *STOPPED* BELIEVING IN YEARS AGO... SEEN THE STRONGEST BACKS *BROKEN*... *TWISTED*...

I SCREAMED SO LOUD I DIDNT EVEN RECOGNIZE THE SOUND OF MY OWN VOICE.

THAT WAS WHY I *SKIPPED* OUT LAST TIME HE OFFERED TREATMENT...

I COULDN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF HIM *TOUCHING* ME AGAIN.

HE *STRIPPED* ME OF EVERYTHING.

SPARING HIS LIFE IS A WAY TO TAKE SOMETHING *BACK* FROM HIM...

YOUR *HUMANITY*.

PLEASE... LISTEN TO WHAT HE HAS TO SAY. *PLEASE*.

FOR *YOUR* SAKE, AND *ONLY* FOR YOUR SAKE, TERESA.

TALK.

THANK YOU. I KNOW THAT I'M ON *BORROWED* TIME, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE THE *LACK* OF BEDSIDE MANNER...

DEADPOOL WAS BROUGHT TO YOU TODAY BY THE LETTER "E" AND THE NUMBER "3" AND "THUMBLESS" JOE KELLY
ED "LEFTY" MCGUINNESS
NATHAN "OF THE OPPOSABLE PINKIES" MASSENGILL
W/NORMAN "PRESS-ON NAILS" LEE
RICHARD STARKINGS AND "THE THOUSAND FINGERED HAND" AKA COMICRAFT
MATTHEW "FINGERPAINTS" PAINE
DIGITAL "HANDI-OFF" CHAMELEON
MATT "LOVE GLOVE" IDELSON
BOB "HAMBURGER HELPER" MARRAS
AND, OF COURSE, UNCLE STAN.

IT'S NOT *JUST* YOUR HEALING FACTOR, WILSON... IT'S *EVERYTHING.*

YOUR BODY IS *DEVOURING* ITSELF FROM THE *INSIDE OUT.* TO PUT IT BLUNTLY...

...YOU'RE *DYING,* DEADPOOL.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THIRTY TRUE BELIEVER!

DEADLINES

DESIGN BY COMICRAFT

DEADPOOL LETTER COLUMN: *DEADLINES*

January 1997

Yaaaaaayy! Letters, at last! Woo-hoo! Now I can shut up and the fandom of the world can speak! But before I go, let me mention a couple of things to those who may not know: If you want to send little old us your letters via e-mail, address them to DEADLINES; include your name, address, and e-mail address (we will withhold all information save your name if you so request), and send them along to MARVELMAIL@AOL.COM. Oh yeah, and absolutely, positively, without fail be certain to mark them "Okay To Print". If you don't provide said marking, we can't print your letter, and then everyone loses. So, okay, let's read the mail!

Dear DEADLINES,

I loved DEADPOOL #1. It was the best comic since X-MEN: BLOOD. The artwork was great! It was sort of cartoony (not that that is bad). The story was great. I also liked the part in the back about how the comic was made. All of the remarks and disses Deadpool gives out are what makes him a fun and funny character. Now for some questions.

1) Does Blind Alfred have any power with her eyes? I mean, they are red.

2) Who is T-Ray?

3) What is the definition of a "merc"?

4) Did the following make their first appearance in DEADPOOL #1? If not, where did they make their first appearance? T-Ray, Blind Al, Patch, that guy that was with Zoe.

So until Siryn and Deadpool get married, make mine Marvel!

Alex Ramos
DarkSpidey@aol.com

Thanks Alex! We like letters. Letters are cool. Letters are fun. Letters are cute. So are answers:

1) Blind Al is a mystery in almost every way conceivable (except for her gender, obviously). There are a million riddles circling her, and we're planning stories for each and every one of them! Stay tuned!

2) Hah! Like we're going to reveal that here! The only thing we know for certain is that T-Ray and 'Pool don't like each other very much. Oh yeah, and that he's reeeeallllly big. More details to follow in future issues!

3) "Merc" is short for mercenary, defined in the Webster's Dictionary as "1. working or acting solely for money or other material reward. - n. 2. a professional soldier serving in a foreign army solely for pay." As we saw in our first issue, Deadpool has a tendency to fall into both categories.

4) Everyone debuted here except for "that guy that was with Zoe", a.k.a. Noah of Landau, Luckman & Lake. He first appeared waaay back in WOLVERINE.

Dear Matt,

I'm impressed. That's about all there is to it. This has got the most potential of any Marvel first issue I've picked up in God only knows how long. I know you want constructive criticism, and I'd usually be the first to give it, but there is really none to give. The art, the script, especially the new elements like Patch and Blind Al... it all worked like a treat. Even the bit about the creation process was interesting. Only thing I didn't really like that much is the involvement of Landau, Luckman and Lake. Although they were handled well here, they usually seem a little directionless and pointless.

I really hope you'll be getting more into what they're about and why they do what they do. But overall... stunner.

Chaz Williams
London, England

Hi there, Chaz! It's really gratifying to hear how much you and so many others seem to like Deadpool's supporting cast—the poor guy can't do this thing on his own! As for LLL, their presence in this series will be somewhat spotty over this first year, but we do have some very definite plans for them which we think will tickle you pink!

Dear Deadlines,

"SWEET!" That was the first word I uttered when my eyes first came upon the comic I had most awaited all year long for, DEADPOOL #1! After hoping, dreaming, and wishing for my all-time favorite Marvel character to get his very own series, the great people that all of you are decided to go ahead with it. I believe that everyone at Marvel made a very wise choice by giving Wade Wilson an ongoing series and I also believe it will be around for a long time to come.

What I liked about DEADPOOL #1: everything! The story was awesome, the art was superb, the colors were the brightest I had ever seen in a comic book. The cracks were incredibly funny, loved every single one. The fight scenes were neat! The new characters are very interesting, they are just as mysterious as Wade himself and that's what makes them great. It is good to see not only Weasel once again, but also to see Sasquatch again.

Deadpool's character

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NEXT TIME:
DEADPOOL'S QUICK, FUNNY, AND DYING.

THE HULK'S HUGE, NOT VERY FUNNY, AND ALSO DYING.

GUESS WHO WINS?

has really been brought out now that he has this series. He has the potential to keep growing from this point, too, and that is great because every issue will seem extremely fresh.

What I did not like about DEADPOOL #1. Just one thing. I know this book is Deadpool's and he deserves a good portion of the time spent in this book, but in this first issue, we hardly got to really see the supporting characters in action. Last time Weasel worked with Deadpool, he was in at least half of the panels of each book of the first limited series. In this first issue, he had only two pages! Bring out the supporting cast! I want to see a bit more of T-Ray, Blind Alfred, Patch, C.F., Gerry and Weasel in the issues to come.

All in all, I can say that this first issue was the best Deadpool yet! I wish to thank everyone at Marvel for a job well done and I wish everyone on the Deadpool crew success for keeping this series the best yet.

Of course, I have some interesting questions to ask you to make this letter complete.

1) Will Deadpool ever run into some of his old supporting cast like Sluggo, Bert the Bartender, or Dr. Killebrew?

2) Will Deadpool ever face off against some of his old foes like Slayback, Daniel Peyer from Interpol or Juggernaut?

3) Will Deadpool ever get his hand back from Black Tom?

4) Will Sasquatch ever be back in this series? I would like to see him again.

5) What is the deal with Wade calling Blind Alfred a prisoner? I smell a story to be told.

Finally, I would just like to say that I have enjoyed watching the Merc-With-A-Mouth for as long as he has been around and I am a huge fan. Keep up the stupendous work!

Bret Sinclair
Bovey, MN
Deadpool3@aol.com

Thanks for the two cents, Bret! Your comments make total sense to us. One of the toughest things about launching a new series, especially one with a character about which so little is known, is that we have to devote a serious chunk of time to laying down the piping or foundation of the series structure. As you said, DEADPOOL is the name of the book, and so 'Pool was bound to capture the bulk of the pages in the first issue. We're conscious of how much fun the supporting cast is going to be, and we're endeavoring to flesh them out as much as possible in successive issues. We tried to spend some quality time with Weasel in the second issue, and we'll be doing so again in issue #5. As for Al, we'll be seeing a whole lot more of her before too long—hope you're ready! As for your questions (we love questions!):

1) As you know by now, Dr. Killebrew has arrived. As for the others, we definitely want to get to them, but we're also trying to surprise and thrill people by avoiding a lot of the established friends and foes we've seen thus far, a la Wolverine, Copycat, Kane, etc. As such, Sluggo and Bert the Bartender are to be no-shows for the immediate future.

2) See above.

3) After the events of GEN X #25, that's kind of unlikely.

4) Always possible, though Squatchy will be plenty busy in the new ALPHA FLIGHT series slated to debut next spring!

5) Heh. Heh, heh. Heh, heh, heh, heh, hahahahahha-ha! Yup.

Dear DEADLINES,

I must say, I don't know a whole lot about Deadpool; what the character is like or any of his past. But I like him already; I hope you keep his series going for a long time. Ed McGuinness is a wicked artist and is perfect for this title. Joe Kelly's got an awesome sense of humor. I was laughing so hard when I read this. Thanks for another great comic and keep 'em coming.

Dana Kittilsen
kittils@netcom.ca

Thanks, Eric! Keep them e-mails coming! As for Deadpool's past, we can never assume that all our readers know the real scoop on 'Pool. That page one feature we've been running the last two issues is designed to give you all the facts you need to read each month's book. In the event we dredge up some fact from Wade's sordid past history prior to this series, we'll be sure to include it in the background briefer! We're gonna make sure you don't miss a beat!